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NO. 3943 P. 11

DEC 1 4 2006

Application No. 10/555,729

Preliminary Amendment

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-197 have been canceled. Claims 198-222 have been added and are pending. New claims 198-217 are equivalent to originally filed claims 101, 102, 106-108, 112, 115, 120, 122, 123, 127, 129, 136, 139, 144, 146, 150, 196, and 197, respectively. New claims 218-223 are supported by the specification at, for example, paragraph [00102]. No new matter has been added by way of these amendments.

If, in the opinion of the Examiner, a telephone conference would expedite the prosecution of the subject application, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned attorney.

Respectfully submitted,

Salim A. Hasan, Reg. No. 38,175 LEYDIG, VOIT & MAYER, LTD.

Two Prudential Plaza, Suite 4900

180 North Stetson Avenue Chicago, Illinois 60601-6731

(312) 616-5600 (telephone)

(312) 616-5700 (facsimile)

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